

Research Article

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A short entomo-faunistical visit to Bey Dağı Natural Park, Malatya Province (East Turkey)

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Abstract: A short entomo-faunistical visit to Bey Dağı Natural Park, Malatya Province (East Turkey). *Cesa News* 100: 1-16, 28 figs.

This short paper deals with the results of a short faunistical visit to newly established Natural Park “BeyDağı” in Malatya Province, East Turkey. Totally, 29 taxa of 19 families and 9 pterygot orders are evaluated faunistically. Nine species are reported here as new records for Malatya Province. Most of the species are also illustrated in nature.

Key words: *Lepidoptera*, *Odonata*, *Mantodea*, *Orthoptera*, *Hemiptera*, *Homoptera*, *Diptera*, *Hymenoptera*, *Coleoptera*, fauna, Bey Dağı NP, Malatya, Turkey.

Bey Dağı Natural Park, is a place at the North of Malatya city, abandoned several years ago by a military troop. The area is currently protected by the Ministry of Forest and Water Affairs (MoFWA), 15. Regional Directorate (RD).

The authors visited Malatya for a 2-day workshop program on biodiversity of Turkey and smuggling, organized by RD, and found an hour free time for visiting the reserved area on 22 October 2014. A biological inventory of the protected area has already been planned by the RD. For this purpose, the following notes, based upon the observations realized by them during mid-day, are prepared. Identifications of the taxa were made by the authors, by using the reference collection within the info-system of the Cesa. Faunistical evaluations are based upon the recent

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results of the Entomofauna Project of the Cesa (Koçak & Kemal, 2007; Koçak & Kemal, 2014a-b; Koçak, 2014). As a result of this, 29 taxa of 19 families in 9 orders are evaluated here faunistically. Marking “*” denotes 9 new faunistical records for the province!

The area is placed on the northern rocky slopes of Bey Dağı, and the herbaceous plant cover was totally dried, due to the late season (**Fig.1**). Sporadic trees and bushes are *Crataegus*, *Prunus*, *Amygdalus*, *Malus*, *Rosa*, *Rubus*, *Scrophularia*, *Verbascum* (**Fig.2**), *Eryngium*, *Euphorbia*, *Colchicum* (*Colchicaceae*) (**Fig.3**), *Malvaceae* (**Fig.4**), *Poaceae*, etc. After the several days of cold and rainy period in the province, a few butterflies were still on the wing (*Pieris rapae* (**Fig.5**), *Colias crocea*, *Chazara briseis*, *Lasiommata megera* (**Fig.6**), *Lycaena phlaeas* (**Fig.7**)), or basking on the warm earth patches (*Chilades trochylus* (**Figs.8-10**)). Two heliophil moth species (*Rhodometra sacraria** (**Fig.11**), *Utetheisa pulchella* (**Fig.12**)) were also recorded there. Other pterygot groups observed are listed below:

- Odonata: Libellulidae: *Sympetrum arenicolor*³ (**Fig.13**)
- Mantodea: Empusidae: *Empusa fasciata**, observed in nymphal stage (**Fig.14**)
- Orthoptera: Acrididae: *Acrida* sp., *Calliptamus italicus* (**Fig.15**)
- Hemiptera: Lygaeidae: *Spilostethus saxatilis** (**Fig.16**), *S. pandurus** (**Fig.17**), *Lygaeus equestris** (**Fig.18**). *Lasiocoris crassicornis**.
- Rhopalidae: *Maccevetus* sp. (**Fig.19**), *Rhopalus parumpunctatus**.
- Pentatomidae: *Aelia albotittata** (**Fig.20**), *Dolycoris baccarum** (**Fig.21**), *Carpocoris pudicus* (**Fig.22**)
- Homoptera: Cicadellidae: Deltocephalinae: An unidentified specimen (**Fig.23**)
- Flatidae: *Phantia* sp.
- Diptera: Tachinidae: An unidentified specimen (**Fig.24**)
- Hymenoptera: Apidae: *Xylocopa* sp. (**Fig.25**)
- Ichneumonidae: An unidentified specimen (**Fig.26**)
- Coleoptera: Coccinellidae: *Coccinella septempunctata* (**Fig.27**)
- Chrysomelidae: *Chrysolina* sp. (**Fig.28**)
- Tenebrionidae: *Blaps* sp.

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³ The species has some taxonomical problems. The following article reflects history of its taxonomy and gives some identification clues during field studies:

Jödicke, R., Kunz, B. & A. Wijker, 2009. A further step in the differentiation between *Sympetrum arenicolor* and *S. sinaiticum* - photo documentation in the field. *Agrion* 13 (1): 4-, figs.



Fig. 1 – A part of the Bey Dağı Natural Park, 22 10 2014, M Kemal (Cesa)



Fig. 2 – Leaves of *Verbascum* species (*Scrophulariaceae*) protect hibernating insects during winter. Bey Dağı Natural Park, 22 10 2014, M Kemal (Cesa)



Fig. 3 – *Colchicum* sp. (Colchicaceae). One of rarest species flowering in autumn. Bey Dağı Natural Park, 22 10 2014, M Kemal (Cesa)



Fig. 4– A *Malvaceae* species, still flowery in autumn. The family members are the food-plants of some hesperiid butterflies. Bey Dağı Natural Park, 22 10 2014, M Kemal (Cesa)



Fig. 5 – *Pieris rapae* (Pieridae) (♀). Bey Dağı NP 1195m 22 10 2014, M.Kemal (Cesa)



Fig. 6 – *Lasiommata megera* (Satyridae) (♂). Bey Dağı NP 1190m 22 10 2014, M.Kemal (Cesa)



Fig. 7 – *Lycaena phlaeas* (Lycaenidae). Bey Dağı NP 1195m 22 10 2014, M.Kemal (Cesa)



Fig.

8 – *Chilades trochylus* (Lycaenidae), during feeding on the flower of Asteraceae. Bey Dağı NP 1195m 22 10 2014, M.Kemal (Cesa)



Figs. 9,10 – *Chilades trochylus* (*Lycaenidae*), basking behaviour. Bey Dağı NP 1195m 22 10 2014, M.Kemal (Cesa)

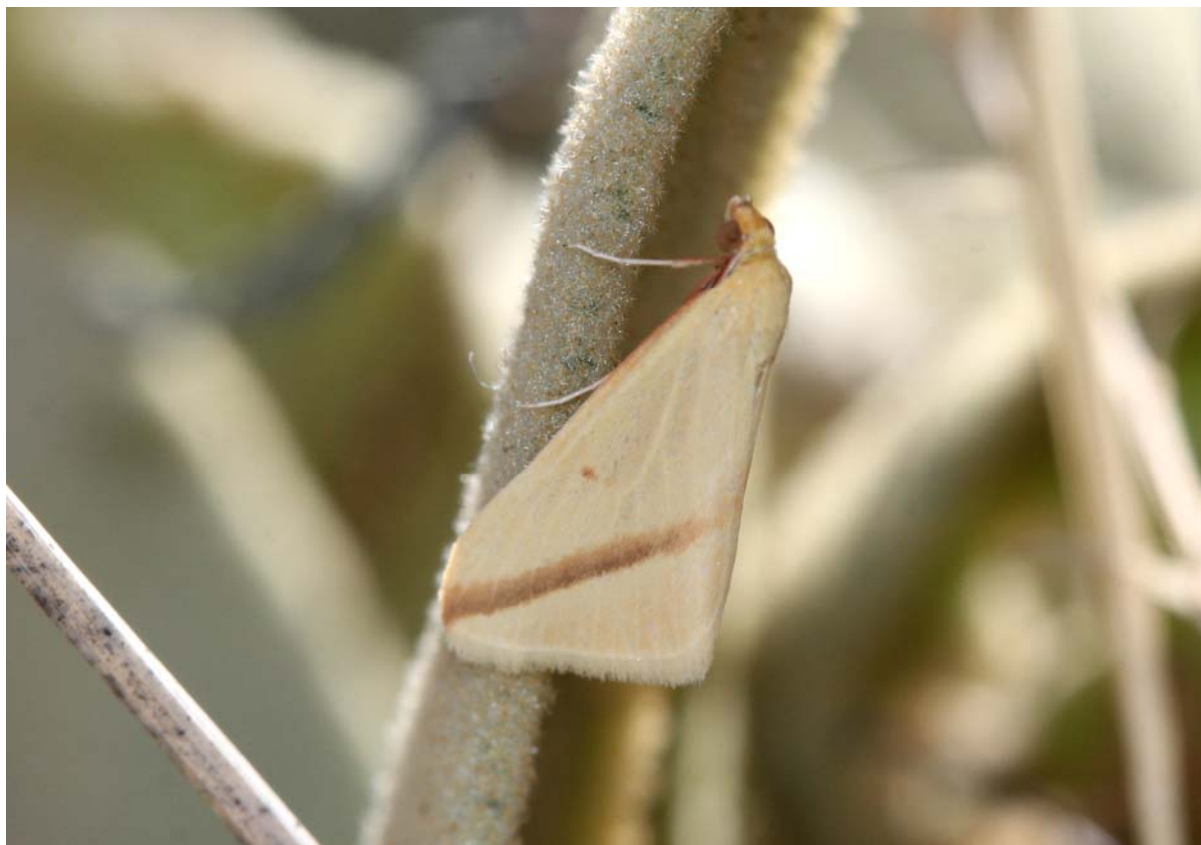


Fig. 11 – *Rhodometra sacraria* (Geometridae). An heliophil moth at rest. Bey Dağı NP 1195m 22 10 2014, M.Kemal (Cesa)



Fig. 12 – *Utetheisa pulchella* (Arctiidae). An heliophil moth at rest. Bey Dağı NP 1195m 22 10 2014, M.Kemal (Cesa)



Fig. 13 – *Sympetrum arenicolor* (Libellulidae). One of the rare species in Turkey. Bey Dağı NP 1195m 22 10 2014, M.Kemal (Cesa)



Fig. 14 – *Empusa fasciata* (nymph) (Empusidae). Bey Dağı NP 1195m 22 10 2014, M.Kemal (Cesa)



Fig. 15 – *Calliptamus italicus* (Acrididae), a female specimen. Bey Dağı NP 1195m 22 10 2014, M.Kemal (Cesa)



Fig. 16 – *Spilostethus saxatilis* (Lygaeidae), a specimen, before hibernating among fleshy leaves of *Verbascum*. Bey Dağı NP 1195m 22 10 2014, M.Kemal (Cesa)



Fig. 17 – *Spilostethus pandurus* (Lygaeidae), a specimen on a dried Asteraceae flower. Bey Dağı NP 1195m 22 10 2014, M.Kemal (Cesa)



Fig. 18 – *Lygaeus equestris* (Lygaeidae). Bey Dağı NP 1195m 22 10 2014, M.Kemal (Cesa)



Fig. 19 – A *Maccevethus* species (*Rhopalidae*), among leaves of *Verbascum*. For identification of the species a genitalic preparation is necessary. Bey Dağı NP 1195m 22 10 2014, M.Kemal (Cesa)



Fig. 20 – *Aelia albovittata* (*Pentatomidae*), a specimen among leaves of *Verbascum*. Bey Dağı NP 1195m 22 10 2014, M.Kemal (Cesa)



Fig. 21 – *Dolycoris baccarum* (Pentatomidae), a specimen among leaves of *Verbascum*. Bey Dağı NP 1195m 22 10 2014, M.Kemal (Cesa)



Fig. 22 – *Carpocoris pudicus* (Pentatomidae), a specimen among leaves of *Verbascum*. Bey Dağı NP 1195m 22 10 2014, M.Kemal (Cesa)



Fig. 23 – A *Deltocephalinae* species (*Cicadellidae*), a specimen among leaves of *Verbascum*. Bey Dağı NP 1195m 22 10 2014, M.Kemal (Cesa)



Fig. 24 – A tachinid species (*Tachinidae*). Bey Dağı NP 1195m 22 10 2014, M.Kemal (Cesa)



Fig. 25 – *Xylocopa* sp. (Apidae). Bey Dağı NP 1195m 22 10 2014, M.Kemal (Cesa)

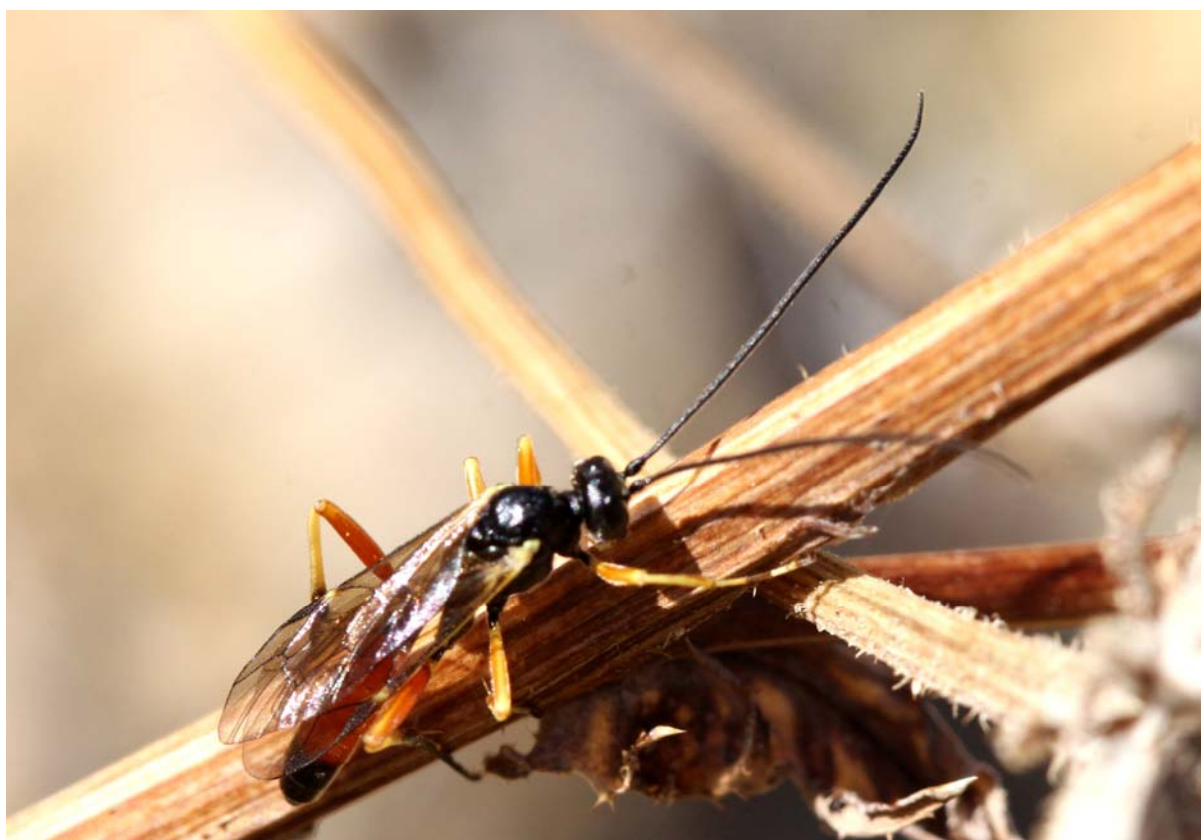


Fig. 26 – An ichneumonid species (Ichneumonidae). Bey Dağı NP 1195m 22 10 2014, M.Kemal (Cesa)



Fig. 27 – *Coccinella septempunctata* (Coccinellidae). Bey Dağı NP 1195m 22 10 2014, M.Kemal (Cesa)

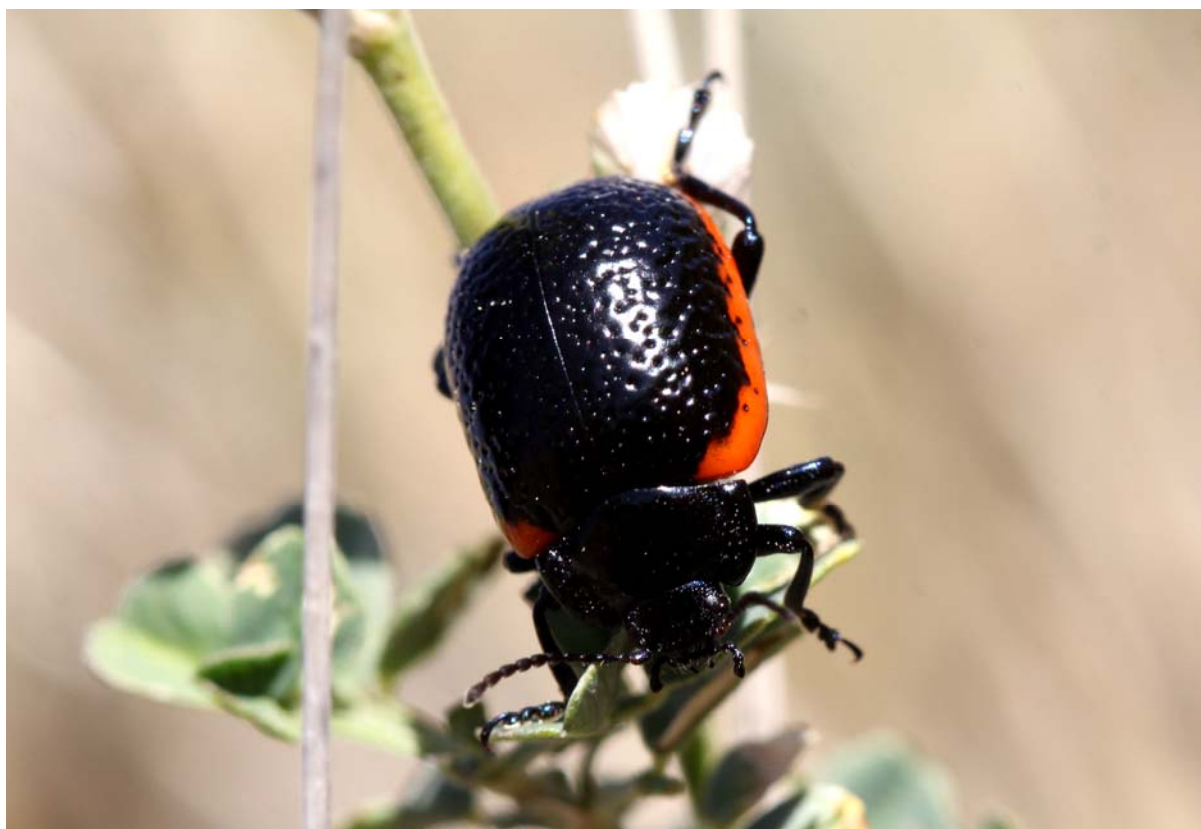


Fig. 28 – *Chrysolina* sp. (Chrysomelidae). Bey Dağı NP 1195m 22 10 2014, M.Kemal (Cesa)

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